

## **Digital Media Developers Group September 4, 2003 Meeting Notes**

### **Old Business:**

#### **ITAB Report – Kay Dinolfo**

- A link to the ITAB meeting minutes is provided for your convenience. Gerry Wethington announced that the newsfeed would roll out September 2.

#### **Web Accessibility & MOTEC – Tom Stokes**

- Tom thanked everyone for their ideas about accessibility training. He will take all the suggestions and compare with existing MOTEC course offerings. He hopes he can incorporate all these ideas into the new training RFP. In the future, MOTEC could be a good resource for additional Web-accessibility coursework.

#### **Newfeed – LIVE!**

- Sandy Ratcliff noted that she had heard from the CIO's office about the newsfeed, but had no specific feedback about it yet. The Governor's Cabinet was to meet today (September 4). Debbie Boeckman said at DNR, she has been keeping her public information staff apprised of progress on the newsfeed, and their director had publicized it to the entire staff.
- It was noted that there had been some questions about the inclusion of headlines over about 10 days old. Josh Bullock and Kevin Lanahan pointed out that these are usually from agencies that have very few news releases each month. The current policy is to have releases expire about 30 days from their initial release (unless otherwise tagged).

#### **Web Conference – Debbie Boeckman**

- The group agreed to plan the conference for a spring date. The aim is to showcase what DMD does, how we do it. Some of the topics to be addressed might include designing for accessibility; Web workflow; documentation efforts; CSS (and why to use them). Peggy Davis reminded everyone that we need to emphasize what attendees can get out of the conference. Kirk Keller, Erica Gage, Peggy Davis, and Kevin Lanahan volunteered to serve on a planning committee with Debbie.

### **Agency Projects/Open Discussion**

- Debbie B. reported that the DNR has hidden-camera video online from illegal dump sites.
- Lainie Smith briefed everyone on her recent test of A-Prompt (<http://www.aprompt.ca/>), a free accessibility checker. She noted it was very intuitive and easy to use. Its drawbacks included an inability to integrate with other HTML tools. She provided her review in a follow-up email to mo-web. Kevin also reminded Dreamweaver users that a Section 508 checker is available as a DW plug-in, too.

The next monthly meeting will be Thursday, October 2, 2003, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Room 500 of the Truman Building.